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April 13, 2009

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2

Please deliver the following pages to:

Examiner Yabut

United States Patent & Trademark Office

Telecopier Phone: (571) 273-8300

From: Eve Logan for FRASER D. ROY

Re: Application No. 10/027,681

Notes:

Examiner Yabut:

Attached is a draft of proposed amendments that I would like to discuss in the interview scheduled for Tuesday April 14, 2009 11:00am-12:30pm.

If you have any questions before that time, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to meeting with you.

Fraser D. Roy

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SUTURE TRIMMER

Serial No.: 10/027,681

Attorney Docket No.: 16497.43

Examiner: Diane D. Yabut

Interview: Tuesday April 14, 2009 11:00am-12:00pm

In regards to the Final Office Action mailed November 26, 2008 (the "Office Action"), please find the proposed Amendments to the above-identified application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

3. (Previously Presented) A suture trimmer, the suture trimmer comprising:
- a shaft having a proximal end and a distal end and an axis therebetween, the shaft having a groove formed in a side thereof, the groove extending from the distal end toward the proximal end and being in communication with an opening formed in the side of the shaft, the opening disposed proximal the distal end of the shaft;
 - a cutting member slidably disposed within the shaft;
 - a suture retainer slidably disposed within the shaft and within the cutting member, the suture retainer having a suture protector in an exterior surface of the suture retainer, the suture protector extending from a retainer distal end toward a retainer proximal end; and
 - a handle disposed adjacent the proximal end of the shaft, wherein the handle further includes independently operable first and second levers, the first lever operatively coupled to the suture retainer to move the suture retainer within the shaft and within the cutting member and the second lever operatively coupled to the cutting member to move the cutting member within the shaft and toward the suture retainer to cut the suture.

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